



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

BUDAPEST NEWSLETTER

Recently at the Embassy

September 21, 2007



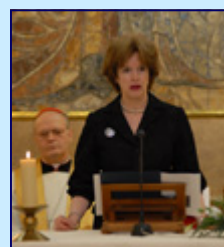
Táncsics Property Exchange Signed at the Foreign Ministry

On September 10, Ambassador April H. Foley and Foreign Affairs Minister Kinga Göncz signed an agreement on an exchange of properties between the Governments of the United States and of Hungary. According to the agreement, a cash-free real estate exchange deal, the historic complex on Táncsics Street in the Castle District, purchased on the free market in the late 1940s, as well as two other U.S.-owned properties in Budapest will get back into Hungarian hands. In return, the Hungarian side will renovate the two buildings adjacent to the main Embassy building on Szabadság tér and

give them to the United States. [More with video►](#)

Ambassador Foley Commemorates 9/11 Victims

Ambassador April Foley invited religious leaders, cabinet members and members of the diplomatic corps to attend a solemn event in Budapest's Jáki Chapel to commemorate the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attack on the sixth anniversary. The Ambassador emphasized that the fight against terrorism requires a cooperation of nations and the vigilance of its citizens because terrorism respects no geographical boundaries. She reiterated President Bush's statement saying that the U.S. needs to rededicate itself to peace and freedom and put aside differences and work together to face history's challenge. [More with video►](#)



U.S. Commercial Service Director General Hernandez Visits Hungary

From September 10-12, the Embassy Commercial Service hosted U.S. Commercial Service Director General Israel Hernandez, who led four companies in a renewable energy technologies trade mission to Central Eastern Europe, with Hungary as the first stop. The Commercial Service coordinated a packed day of matchmaking meetings for the companies, in addition to industry briefing sessions and a reception hosted by Ambassador Foley. Separately, Mr. Hernandez met with members of the Hungarian Parliament's energy sub-committee, the Deputy Economy Minister, toured a GE energy facility and conducted press interviews.



Strengthening Bonds of Friendship through Gastronomy

Ambassador Foley led a delegation of Embassy, Fulbright, and Debrecen American Corner personnel to the 9th Annual Goulash Festival in Szolnok on September 8. The Ambassador opened the event with words of praise for an initiative that brings together goulash enthusiasts from all over the world. At the Embassy information tent Embassy staff shared information on traveling to the U.S., the Fulbright Commission's Student Advisor explained requirements for studying in American universities, and the Debrecen American Corner Director acquainted visitors with the activities of the American Corners. [More with video►](#)



Ambassador Foley Opens American Roadside Architecture Exhibition

On September 6, Ambassador Foley opened a traveling exhibition at Millenáris Park's Red-Black Gallery titled "American Roadside Architecture," which displays 56 photos by architectural historian John Margolies. The exhibit will be open until October 7. Address: Millenáris Teátrum, Budapest II, Fény u. 20-22. [More with video►](#)



Bipartisan Congressional Delegation of Cuban-American Members Visit Budapest

Congressman Albio Sires (NJ), Congressman Lincoln Diaz-Balart (FL) and Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (FL) met with senior state officials, representatives of four Hungarian parliamentary parties and members of the press during their visit August 29-30. The purpose of the visit was to express the gratitude of the United States - and especially of the Cuban diaspora in the U.S. - for Hungary's support of the island nation's transition to democracy. [More►](#)



Ambassador Foley Visits International Youth Summer Camp



On August 16, Ambassador Foley visited students and teachers at the "Teaching Tolerance through English" summer camp in Balatonlelle, Hungary. The camp brings together 70 students, ages 12-14, plus 14 teachers from Croatia, Hungary, Kosovo, Montenegro, Romania, and Serbia for two weeks of activities that promote inter-ethnic understanding and empathy using English as the language of instruction.

[More with video▶](#)

Congressman Tom Lantos Holds Press Conference in Budapest

Congressman Tom Lantos, Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, held a press conference on August 16 in Budapest discussing U.S.-Hungary and U.S.-EU relations, as well as energy dependence and recent changes in the law that affect visas. [More▶](#)



Looking Ahead

Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA) Graduate Admissions Fair



All faculty and students are invited to attend the APSIA Graduate School Admissions Fair in Budapest to meet with representatives from schools of public policy, public administration and international affairs to learn about degree programs, curriculum and admissions procedures. When: September 24, 6 - 8 p.m.; Where: Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest, Erzsébet krt. 43-49. [APSIA web site▶](#)

Annual Bridge Walk over Lánchíd

Join us on September 30, the Pink Day of Health organized at Roosevelt tér to raise awareness to breast cancer. Information programs, medical screening and entertainment from 11 am to 10 pm. The annual Bridge Walk over Lánchíd, with the participation of Ambassador Foley and other distinguished guests, will take place at 8 pm. More information (in Hungarian): [Egészségid web site▶](#)

New Publications

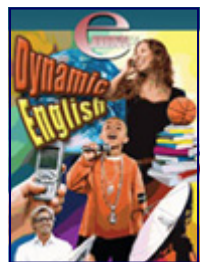
IRC Newsletters: [Information Technology▶](#) [Health Issues▶](#)
[Defense Issues, NATO and Response to Terrorism▶](#)

eJournal: [U.S. Food Aid: Reducing World Hunger eJournal▶](#)

This edition describes some of the ways in which the U.S. government works through its agencies and in conjunction with international organizations and NGOs to provide food and assistance to save lives and to help hungry people feed themselves.

eJournal: [Dynamic English eJournal▶](#)

Articles discuss forces that shape and change everyday English, describe the process of language change, and give tips for deciphering slang.



In the News... from Washington

2007 International Religious Freedom Report Released (September 14, 2007) [Full text▶](#) [Report▶](#)

Secretary Rice: "Through our bilateral relationships, our work in international forums, and our many ongoing discussions on this issue with people across the globe, the United States will continue working to promote religious freedom, to nurture tolerance and to build a more peaceful world for people of all faiths."

Why Helping Afghanistan Matters

Speech by Kurt Volker, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs, to the Atlantic Council of Finland (September 14, 2007)

"... the security and well-being of our societies --of all of us in the transatlantic community-- depends on our success in Afghanistan. We must not allow the Taliban and al-Qaeda to re-impose their rule in Afghanistan and thus present a major long-term threat to people in that country and the surrounding region, to peace and stability in the region and the wider Middle East, and to our own societies." [More▶](#)

